

MADERA

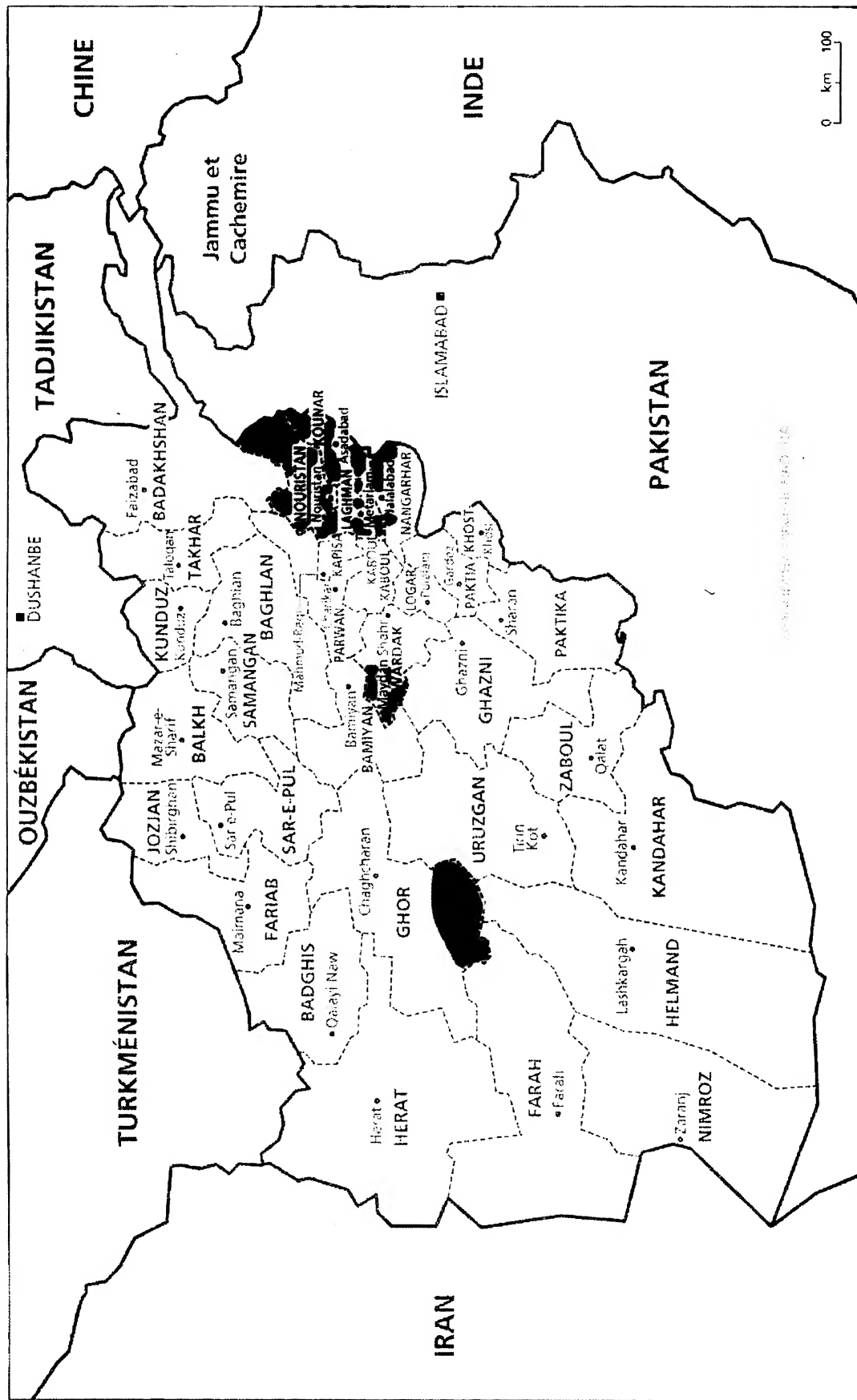
Mission d'Aide au Développement des Economies Rurales

A F G H A N I S T A N



ACTIVITY REPORT 2005



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SUMMARY



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A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

With the establishment of the new government and the unfortunately still not finished ratification by the assemblies, Afghanistan has become a democracy. Regrettably the latter cannot be said to be "representative" nor even "opinionated", to use the categories proposed by Tocqueville, but rather a democracy of negotiation.

The constitution was only adopted after hard bargaining. A great number of chiefs from clans, networks and armed groups were able to become parliamentarians. The result is that the President Karzaï has to negotiate continually his political orientations with a bunch of factions more or less calmed down by their entry into parliament as well as with patriotic elements of different tendencies and degrees of motivation. He does it with the cleverness and the perseverance for which he is well known and according to methods that he has mastered since his political beginnings. So it is with resolute but slightly tottering steps that Afghanistan seems to moving along the road to development.

A network of dispensaries, hospitals and schools are being opened, although it is true, at a rather slow pace. The army, police and justice progress in terms of numbers and skills even if they have a long way to go to reach the standard needed to run a modern state. Ad hoc structures have been set up for such things as promoting integrated and participative rural development, or for combating drug trafficking and destroying the heroine producing laboratories, others for mid-term coordination of ministries and agencies that intervene in the economic field. The PIB growth seems to be maintaining a high level even when incomes directly or indirectly linked to illegal exportations are left out of the calculations.

Despite this, the Afghans who for centuries have fiercely fought for their independence realise with bitterness that despite the engagements given at Bonn and Petersburg, they are more than ever dependant on:

- Corruption networks in the administrative sphere
- Client networks in many aspects of internal politics
- The self-serving helpfulness of drug traffickers especially in the countryside
- Foreign armies for security with their associated high "collateral damage" costs.
- International aid for the whole of the legal economy.

As long as these dependencies last, the Afghan population will remain in the unpleasant position of hospital patients who are obliged to suffer painful and endless perfusions.

One understands then how the guerrillas and preachers who profess a fight to the death against the world that advances, still find amongst the Afghan population the support that they need to carry out their fight; support that ranges from passive neutrality to being a sympathiser or a collaborator. One shouldn't wonder then that the Taliban or the militant strangers proclaiming international Islamism carry out so violent and lethal guerrilla actions in an ever widening geographical area.

Certainly the Taleban and their allies have concluded tactical alliances with the drug dealers or small war lords and hereby discredited themselves and those who support them from outside the country by revealing the shallowness of their convictions. But equally certainly, they are not seen by the afghan society as being intruders that have to be rejected out of hand.

This situation, that threatens to lead to an increase in the insecurity within the country with all its associated paralysing effects, should normally be improved by the benefits of international aid.

When, two years ago, MADERA tried to represent the future of Afghanistan using comparative tables, our association found by a simple process of comparison, the extent of the responsibilities of the international community for the future of the country. Judging by the options taken at the London conference it seems that the international community itself has come to realise this fact. Initiatives and financial promises were made in plenty. It remains to be seen if they will have positive effects. Some of these actions taken with the support of the United Nations are pertinent and full of promise. Others are less so and could prove counter-productive and dangerous.

The National Solidarity Programme (NSP) is one of the promising initiatives. It associates the United Nations, the Afghan Government and sometimes, NGOs, in an attempt to lead village leaders, who are by definition representative because they are elected by the villagers and co-opted by the traditional authorities (councils of elders), to define and prioritise their mid and long term needs. These are turned into programmes and executed by the villagers and their representatives, with (state) financing and technical advice. This points the way towards a development that is participative and integrated and therefore sustainable. With the experience, these actions are seen to be necessary but not exempt of difficulties. They highlight to what extent the wars and migrations that have beset the population during these last 20 years, have damaged the self reliant nature of the society in many villages and urban suburbs. Afghans then have to rediscover how to prepare their future.

But the painstaking and without doubt profitable work of the NSP programme is eclipsed or at least disturbed by the actions of the "PRT" whose priority objectives seem to be the fulfilment of military objectives: to charm the population by offering them a few free projects on a turn-key basis, to carry out other forms of psychological actions and lastly and most importantly, to obtain information of military interest. These actions that are supposedly done to liberate the population, forces them in fact, to "choose sides" and recreates the antagonisms that reigned during the worst hours of the civil war and foreign intervention. Amongst such populations, "benefiting" of such a form of solicitude, even the most even minded of observers can see that, as in other cases, there is a lot of corruption and wastage of resources that are officially destined for reconstruction and development.

This contrast between interventions that are useful for some and harmful for others can be extended to other intervention domains such as microfinance; interventions that cannot all be enumerated here.

In this situation the NGOs are forced to choose their funding agencies and potential partners between those who make war and those who work for the autonomy and the dignity of the highest possible number of Afghans.

In the meantime, big infrastructure works, especially those of nationwide importance are at a standstill despite the obvious economic benefits they would bring both in terms of the impact of the works themselves and in terms of the number of workers employed in building them.

One consolation in this otherwise dark picture is that the adherents of opposite approaches to development aide maintain courteous relations between themselves: the world of the "north" knows that it would lose out and damage Afghanistan in the process, if it brought its divisions out into the open.

The NGOs are careful not to take sides in these muted quarrels. They nevertheless have a duty to say, without animosity and in all sincerity, what seems to them to be the closest to their ethics and especially to the proper management of the all too meagre resources consecrated to Afghanistan.

Unfortunately the situation of the inhabitants of this country does not even permit them to say in their prayers "Lord, protect me from my friends and I will take care of my enemies".

*Pierre Lafrance
June 2006.*

ACTIVITIES 2005

In the course of the year Madera was able to follow the orientations of its strategic plan by carrying out participative community-based programmes that are oriented towards sustainable development and so concentrate a little less on humanitarian actions.

This orientation towards methods that involve as much as possible the communities in development programmes progressively gained all the activities of Madera even those such as civil engineering that are predominately technical.

Water inlets, new or rehabilitated irrigation networks, gravelled road construction: in all these projects the construction teams have tried to induce the participation of as many of the beneficiaries as possible and beyond that, to induce an appropriation of the projects as widespread as possible.

This year, 2005, also saw the start of two new and important programmes for Madera; that of the microfinance including the start of a village banking system in the eastern region affiliated into an institution called Sunduq (the cashbox) and secondly the rehabilitation of the National Veterinary Laboratory at Kabul and the production of animal vaccines.

1. NEW PROGRAMMES 2005

MICROFINANCE INSTITUTION : SUNDUQ (« THE CASHBOX »)

Madera has conducted rural micro-credit programmes since 1998.

Starting in January 2005, Madera launched the creation of a microfinance institution called "Sunduq" (the cashbox in Dari), which has as its objective to offer micro-credit to rural vulnerable populations in zones that are normally too isolated to benefit from such services. A network of village-level credit institutions controlled by the villagers themselves will develop and reinforce management capacities of the communities implicated in the programme. In the initial phase the management is assured by MADERA who follow-up the village groups and participate in the training of the personnel.



Bazar of Qarghaie

From 2006 a board of directors specifically for Sunduq will be nominated and later (sometime in the next 5 years) the institution will become independent and guided by regulations being elaborated at the moment by the Afghanistan government for all institutions of microfinance.

This programme is carried out in 6 districts belonging to the provinces of Laghman, Kunar and Nangarhar (Eastern Afghanistan) and will be extended 10 extra districts in 2006/2007. Other micro finance institutions exist in other provinces and are run by different NGOs or private enterprises.

The whole programme is financed by the World Bank, USAID¹ and ARTF², and under the operational control of the Ministry of rural development and rehabilitation (MRRD), managed by a committee of civil servants and consultants (MISFA³).

At the moment potential clients are proposed a standardised first credit of 100 USD that has to be reimbursed over 6 months and which leads the way to more important loans of 200 then 300 USD.

¹ USAID : United States Agency for International Development.

² ARTF : Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund constituted by a group of donors.

³ MISFA : microfinance investment and support facility for Afghanistan.

Two thousand seven hundred (2 700) loans have already been accorded during the first year and 13500 USD has been placed in savings accounts. For 2006, the goal is to reach 9 100 clients who will be able to borrow up to 500 USD, a sum that corresponds better to their needs. Sunduq created this year a network of 100 village-level institutions and trained 2 700 persons on how to manage their loans.

ANIMAL VACCINES PRODUCTION LABORATORY AT BADAM BAGH – KABUL

The nation laboratory for the production of animal vaccines (AVPL) was created in 1955 with the participation of the Pasteur Institute and Dr. Tulasne and run by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). After the long interruption due to the war the Afghanistan State was not in a position to restart and run the laboratory on its own.

Because of its experience gained between 1997 and 2001 in setting up and running a similar laboratory in Jalalabad, Madera was the obvious choice to restart the laboratory in Kabul. Following preliminary studies in 2004, Madera is carrying out a programme, financed by the European Union, of the revival of the production of 6 animal vaccines: Anthrax, Blackleg, Septicaemia haemorrhage of Cattle, Enterotoxaemia, Newcastle disease, Septicaemia haemorrhage of sheep.



The animal vaccines production laboratory

It is planned to cover the totality of the needs of the country in vaccine production and so reduce significantly its dependence on imported vaccines.

This programme is consistent with the concern of Madera for an integrated approach to all development issues; for its endeavours to improve animal health and for the reconstruction of livestock numbers in Afghanistan including the setting up of a network of veterinary clinics, animal husbandry extension and breeding and herd management. These are actions that the field teams have managed for the past 10 years in the eastern regions and in the Hazarajat.

The first actions in this programme were the renovation of the clinics, the purchase of basic laboratory material, the reorganisation of technical and administrative services and the coordination with the distributors of the vaccines (the NGO Dutch Committee for Afghanistan).

From September 2005 the production of the first batch of vaccines (Anthrax, Black leg and Septicaemia haemorrhage of cattle) was started. The technical cooperation with reputed laboratories established in neighbouring countries (IVRI and RAZI), paved the way for the certification of the vaccines and the training of the technicians.

These partnerships enabled three other vaccines to be produced (Enterotoxaemia, Newcastle disease and Septicaemia hemorrhagic of sheep).

MADERA's teams have several priorities:

Personal training and production capacity

Refresher courses, including basic techniques, have been given by an international consultant, Roy Halliwell to all the technicians of the laboratory during June and July 2006.

A manual on laboratory techniques has been made in English and in Dari and distributed to all the technicians.

Longer term collaboration is envisaged with two Indian laboratories and an Iranian laboratory with the aim of establishing a technical follow up of production procedures and quality control until the laboratory becomes autonomous and certified.

An employment manual has been made for each vaccine. (Chicken cholera, Blackleg, septicaemia haemorrhage of cattle).

The first order from the Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA - the only NGO allowed to import and to distribute vaccines in Afghanistan) was for one million doses of anthrax vaccination. Production will be increased in 2006 with an objective of an additional 4 millions doses of anthrax vaccination, as well as 50 000 doses of vaccine against septicaemia haemorrhage and 100 000 dose against blackleg.

Administration and the financial management of the laboratory

A department of finance and administration was established in August 2005 and the financial manager followed training sessions in the AVPL and in MADERA.

The creation of this department enabled the project to define, formalise and apply number of budgetary and financial procedures.

Logistic

A logistical department was also created in August 2005 in order to improve stock and equipment management and to assure material maintenance.

The head of this department was recruited in August 2005 and was trained in management and logistical methods.

Storehouses were built from isolated containers for storing temperature sensitive chemical products.

A list of suppliers that are reliable has been established for different products (chemicals, laboratory equipment, technical assistance, electrical equipment, etc.) in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India.

Sales-Marketing

In order to estimate the future demand vaccine needs have been estimated from information gathered from most of the NGO implicated in animal health programmes (DCA⁴, AVA⁵, PRB⁶, Madera, Mercy Corps...)

The AVPL responded to the tender announcement for 4 million doses of anthrax vaccine, 50`000 doses of septicaemia haemorrhage and 100 000 doses of Blackleg from DCA.

In 2006 the rehabilitation of the various buildings of the laboratory will be carried out in parallel with the production increase. Another priority for 2006 will be the identification of international partners and investors in the laboratory. In the long run the National Laboratory, which has a national service role for animal health in Afghanistan, will be taken over by the Afghanistan state services.



Laboratory technicians at work



⁴ DCA : Dutch Committee for Afghanistan

⁵ AVA : Association of Afghan Veterinaries

⁶ PRB : Parnir Reconstruction Bureau, a national NGO.

2. GHOR : The districts of Taywarah and Pasaband

A HISTORY OF ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

MADERA started its activities from 2001 in two districts in the south of the province. These actions were in the field of rural rehabilitation and emergency distribution.

2001 – 2002: Emergency programmes “Food for Work”: rehabilitation of roads and tracks.

November 2002: Programmes carried out:

- Start of a participative survey in areas where Madera was working.

2003-2005: Programmes of:

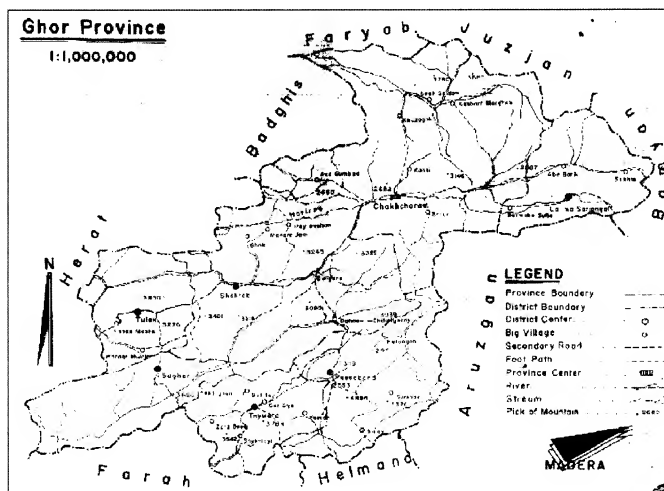
- construction and rehabilitation of roads and tracks

- agriculture: variety tests, seed multiplication, arboriculture (nurseries for the introduction of fruit & timber trees).

- building schools

- animal husbandry: introduction of feeding blocks and improved stables.

- handicrafts: introduction of the spinning wheel for wool spinning.



In March 2005 when Madera restarted its activities in Taywarah and Pasaband, after the winter break, a new base in the provincial capital, Chaghcharan, was opened. This enabled a permanent contact to be maintained with the provincial authorities as well as assuring the participation of the team in the different coordination meetings at that the provincial level as well as between Kabul, Herat, Taywarah and Pasaband.

Following a hard winter with lots of snow, the main passes that give access to the province were still closed at the beginning of March. Part of the team decided to walk in across the Band – Bayan so that they could start as early as possible, two big programmes that aimed at alleviating the disastrous consequences of the draught of 2004.

EMERGENCY AID PROGRAMMES

So it was that from the end of March, 4 170 farmers benefited from the distribution of agricultural inputs for 830 hectares of irrigated and more than 4 600 workers were engaged in a food for work programme of road rehabilitation financed by EU / ECHO.

By the end of June 2005 each family of the workers on the road had received an average of 4 500 AFA in financial aid which corresponds to 30 days of work and 25% of their annual needs in cereals.



Road réhabilitation in Ghor province

During the year other road rehabilitation programmes were carried out in Pasaband. The NGO Action Contre la Faim (ACF) covered the ECHO programme in Taywarah district.

On the one hand two successive programmes of one month each of food for work enabled the distribution of 617 tonnes of food to 3 825 extra families and secondly the rehabilitation of the main road going to the eastern edge of the district enabled 45 000€ to be distributed to 418 families.

Apart from benefiting directly the families of the road workers these different programmes greatly improved over 300 Km of the road network that facilitates the circulation of materials and peoples and the supply to the principal bazaars. The collaboration between Madera and ACF enabled the

reopening of a main access road to the south of Taywarah, which was essential for supplying the district, cut-off since the spring floods.

Since 2003, Madera's strategy for the province of Ghor combines emergency programmes with multi-sectorial activities of a longer term nature, namely: agriculture, animal husbandry, handicrafts, civil engineering and aiding community initiatives.

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Together with the distribution of an important quantity of agricultural inputs, agronomists and technicians of Madera carried out a seed programme with 450 farmers with the aim of multiplying recently introduced improved seed. The objective is to avoid too great a dependence on improved seed produced outside the province.

Seed production locally

In 2005 MADERA initiated a locally produced seed market. Madera treated part of their yield and in exchange the farmers promised to exchange or sell it themselves.

97% of the farmers producing seed on irrigated land accepted the offer. Those with dry land wheat did not harvest enough to warrant treatment. In Taywara the wheat crop suffered an attack of rust and only some of the farmers were able to benefit from the scheme. In total 15 tonnes of wheat seed were treated and commercialised. At the same time, the agricultural team collected from the farmers in earlier programmes, the seed that they (the farmers) promised to return to Madera after their harvest. All together an extra 108 tonnes were collected.

In the autumn of 2005, Madera received fertiliser and this was distributed to 2 285 farmers. Seed producers were proposed another year of collaboration with the idea to create an association the following year.

Vegetables

Madera teams are engaged in a programme of diversification of the wheat crop, which is the stable crop of the two districts. A network of reference farmers has been created who receive vegetable seed and tools. Their fields serve as demonstration plots for the diffusion of basic techniques of vegetable growing to a circle of neighbouring farmers. This year the number of reference farmers has doubled to 40 and their neighbours to 800.

Arboriculture



Popularization session

The bases for the fruit tree extension programme are the nurseries established in 2003. Some 50 000 tree saplings were grown – principally apricot and almond but also some mulberries, apples and walnuts as well as poplar and ash trees.

During the year, the next extension phase was breached with grafting demonstrations under the supervision of the forest guard team from Behsud (Hazarajat). The first sapling distributions are timed for spring 2006. This will be the occasion to develop a network of private demonstration orchards that will be, as in the vegetable programme, used for further extension efforts.

100 farmers have already been identified for the establishment of these orchards in different zones of the two districts.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

In the field of animal husbandry Madera's technicians continue their efforts in improving the hygienic conditions and the feeding of the animals.

Following the success of the first 20 pilot stables established in 2003, the programme was extended this year to a 100 extra farmers. A contract was signed with each farmer that details the improvements that have to be made, what work will have to be done and the sharing of the costs between the farmer and MADERA. Madera's contribution was fixed at about 60 € for each farmers plus the provision of a

set of tools and the systematic disinfection of the buildings and the animals. The programme was completed before the end of the year. 20% of the farmers in the programme took the opportunity to construct new stables. An estimation of the work done by the farmers and the cost of the material given by MADERA showed that the farmers contributed 75% to the cost of the constructions - rehabilitations.

Over the years, continuous droughts have reduced the extent and especially the diversity of the pastures and most of the animals suffer from mineral deficiencies. With the aim of improving animal health, Madera introduced, in 2004, mineral blocks as a nutritional complement.

During the year 813 farmers were trained in the fabrication and the utilisation of these blocks. 5 886 mineral blocks were distributed to farmers. In addition a voyage was organised by Madera to Herat for 14 traders from the principal bazaars of the two districts. The aim was to create a reliable supply of the three main ingredients of the mineral blocks: bone powder cement and salt. They visited the bone grinding factory started in 2004 by MADERA and received training on the diffusion of the

product. After having affirmed their interest for the project, the traders were given, on credit, the different ingredients before the winter season.



HANDICRAFTS

The aid given to this sector was the introduction of the spinning wheel to farmers' wives in Pasaband. Training sessions in wool spinning by trainers engaged before the winter continued until mid-May. At that time a total of 127 women had been trained on the utilisation of the spinning wheel. Of these, 50, based on their skill and motivation, were selected and given spinning wheels and raw wool on credit at a subsidized price. Wool distribution started at the beginning of September and at the beginning of winter 19 spinners had started to reimburse their credit.

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development activities were finally started in 2005. The first task was a study of the political and social organisation of the two districts. The aim was to better understand the society and to identify information on local initiatives in order to support and extend them.

Support to the road maintenance committees

Road maintenance committees are those committees set up in the East of Pasaband that were supported by Madera in their task of maintaining and constructing roads. The aim was to structure their organisation and to help them in their tasks of carrying out the necessary repair and maintenance works.

Contact was made with the shuras representing the population affected by the road leading to the extreme east of the district (about 80 km). They were regrouped into 5 committees according to geographic criteria and their capacity of working together. Through regular meetings and the permanent support of the MADERA team, internal regulations were established and maintenance responsibilities were shared out along the road.



Maintenance committee meeting

With the aim of giving them practical experience, the shuras were associated with Madera in the rehabilitation and the construction of roads in their area. They were implicated in each stage of the

project: technical evaluation, management of the work and selection of the workers. At the end of the two months projects an important number of tools were allocated to each shura that enabled them to follow up with the maintenance on their own. Each shura appointed a store keeper and a cashier who were trained in the management of community owned stock.

The creation of producer associations

With the objective of supporting the producers of the two districts, another task of the community development sector was the creation, the training and the follow-up of producer associations.

Because no producer groups had been identified during the initial study phase, individual innovators were first identified and through meetings and discussions, presented with the idea of working together to resolve common problems in the development of their activities.

By the end of 2005 three groups were identified in Pasaband and two in Taywarah covering the production of "anghoza" (latin: ferula foetida), arboriculture and sheep raising. Each association worked out its own modalities of conception and functioning, preparing internal rules and regulations and identifying priorities for the association. The constitution of these associations and the credit accorded by MADERA should enable them to develop economically viable activities.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

In addition to its work in the rehabilitation of emergency road programmes, the civil engineering teams helped out in three major projects in the province.

School in Pasaband :

The secondary school for boys of Pasaband district, a building with 12 classes, was constructed during 2005 and terminated in November of the same year. Local workers and materials were used.

The school will open in April 2006.

It is to be noted that within the framework of the same programme financed by Caritas Italy, the construction of 4 extra schools is planned for 2006 (two in Pasaband district and two in Taywara district).



Inauguration of school

Tangi Tchardar canyon

This project completed in the autumn of 2005, aimed at the reconstruction of the road between Taywara and the south of the district, through the canyon of Tangi Tchadar, that was destroyed in the flooding of May 2005.

The canyon was reinforced by gabions and the rebuilding of the road was done with local workers, in collaboration with Action Contre la Faim (ACF).

Infrastructures :

Within the framework of a programme of opening up rural areas, financed by the EU / AIDCO, important works such as the Taywara bridge and the establishment of many drainage ducts were made in this district.

These works were carried out during the three months from September to November 2005.



Taywarah bridge

3. HAZARAJAT: Districts of Behsud I & II

A HISTORY OF ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

Madera has conducted since 1992 a programme of development rural in this region (Behsud districts, Wardak province) and since 1997, a programme of animal vaccinations.

Agriculture

1992: Introduction to vegetable growing.

1998: programme of introduction of vegetable varieties (the production of which was unknown in the region) and seed multiplication with the objective of diversifying the food supply of these mountain populations.

2001: programme of fruit tree and poplar cultivation with the aim of increasing and diversifying the farmers' revenues. Sale of poplar trees and fruits at Kabul. Nurseries established at Kajao, Gardandiwal and Abbeshirum.

Handicrafts:

1999: Introduction and training of in wool spinning using the spinning wheel.

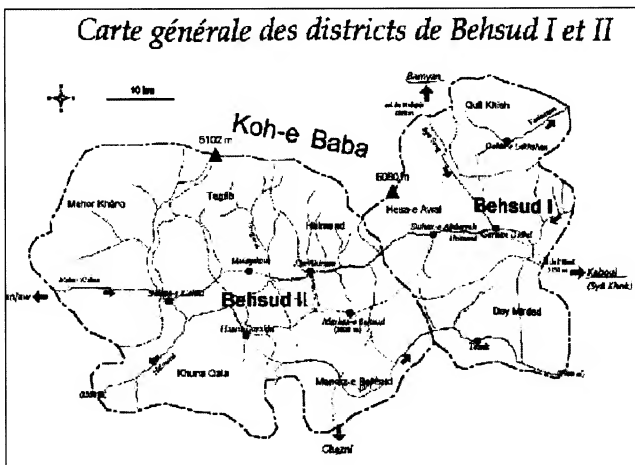
Pilot experiences in the construction of micro-electricity generators with the aim of developing a cottage industry (blacksmiths etc), as well as bio-climatic glasshouses in collaboration with GERES (Groupe Energie Renouvelable et Environnement)

Animal Husbandry

1998: Animal vaccination campaigns, establishment of a network of para- veterinarians for animal health.

Emergency programmes:

Food for Work programmes in response to the drought and the food deficit in the area. Madera has carried out for several years, road and bridge constructions and the rehabilitation of secondary roads.



ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

In 2005 Madera carried out an integrated programme that consisted of organising a network of veterinarians and para - veterinarians to cover the animal health needs of 4 provinces – North Wardak and 3 provinces in the East of the country.

This programme, financed by the European Union, is part of a country-wide effort to liberalise the work of the veterinarians while at the same time confiding in them the task of watching over the livestock sanitary condition in collaboration with the local and government authorities.

The programme includes the formation of the animal health personnel that has the responsibility of assuring the prevention of epidemics and the treatment of sick animals. The organisation of the veterinary services is regulated by a protocol between the personnel (veterinaries and the para-veterinaries of the region) and the governor of the province. Madera guides the whole process.

In the two Hazarajat districts collaboration was established with DCA⁷ for the training of 8 new para-veterinarians and 3 former MADERA employees. 5 more posts remain vacant because recruitment is difficult due to the isolation of the province.

The animal dispensaries were equipped by November 2005 and will be functional in spring 2006.

The teams organised vaccination campaigns against the main infectious diseases (ETV= Pulpy Kidney, HSV = Haemorrhagic septicaemia, BQV = Blackleg, ASV=Chicken cholera, CCPV = Infectious pleuropneumonia of goats) and vaccinated 125 000 animals of 40 174 farmers.

AGRICULTURE

The agriculture sector has carried out an extension programme with 180 "reference farmers" (120 wheat seed producers and 60 vegetable seed producers) and continued with tests and demonstrations on the three farms run by Madera at Gardandiwal (Behsud 1), Abeshiroom (Behsud II) and Qal-e-Khash (Behsud I).

⁷ DCA : Dutch Committee for Afghanistan

Greater prosperity thanks to vegetable growing

Mr. Mohammad Zeia, son of Ewaz Ali of Chub Shanda-e-Tagab village in the district of Behsud II, is a "reference farmer" for seed production and vegetable cultivation since March 2004. He has participated in 2 four-day formations and has been given guidance by Madera's technicians on cultural techniques during the growing season (April to October) in both 2004 and 2005. He also received advice on how to extend his vegetable cultivation (together with other interested farmers).

In 2004 he produced 208 kg of vegetable seed (carrots, pumpkins, cabbage, white radish). Of this total, 134 kg was consumed by the household and the surplus of 74 kg was sold and gained him 1480 AFA (1000 AFA= 18.25 €).

In 2005 he cultivated four other vegetable varieties (red radish, spinach, sugar beet and turnip) and increased the size of his cultivated area from 48 m² to 4141 m².

His production totalled 3124 kg of which 589 kg was consumed by the household and 2535 kg was sold for a total of 24680 AFA.

This combination of improvements, diversifications and increase in cultivated area not only enabled him to introduce a greater diversity into the diet of he and his family but also increased significantly his revenue.



Parallel to this, Madera distributed agricultural inputs (wheat and vegetable seed, fertilisers (Urea-rapid action fertiliser), DAP (Di-ammonium phosphate) and manure to 180 "reference farmers" as well as to 1 600 local farmers identified as living in precarious conditions in the province.

Demonstration plot

ARBORICULTURE

The districts of Behsud I and II have conditions that are favourable for the development of fruit trees. Until recently fruit tree growing was rare. Madera has carried out for several years a programme for the introduction of fruit and forest trees in this area through the continued support of ASAA (Association Suisse of friends of Afghanistan), the General council of Dordogne and TROCAIRE (Irish Caritas network).

Madera's nurseries

Madera continued its work in the three nurseries of Qajab, Gardandiwal and Abeshiroom. A total of 2 573 fruit tree saplings (30 AFA each), 1 936 poplars (15 AFA each) were sold and 1 373 ornamental plants were distributed free to 10 schools and 6 clinics.

The pupils were asked to protect and water the trees. 400 children took part in this operation.

Private orchards

Madera followed up the maintenance and development of previously established private nurseries. Training sessions were organised on grafting, pruning disease control and manure application.

The usefulness of technical formation

Mr. Mer Dashti of the village of Pasyen Tazak (Kajab valley) was chosen by Madera as a future nursery man.

He undertook between 2004 and 2005 several training sessions on different techniques concerning fruit tree growing that enabled him to significantly increase the productivity of his orchard. In 2004 he harvested 50 cageots (28 kg each) of medium quality apples that he sold for a total of 10000 AFA.

In 2005 with the same number of trees he harvested 105 cageots of good quality apples that sold for double the unit price (400 AFA) and gained him a total revenue of 42 000 AFA.

With this performance he has become the role model for the whole zone. He will manage in 2006 Madera's disease protection campaign in his area.

Awareness campaign on the environment

Public awareness campaigns of a general nature on the environment have been conducted in the form of information sessions in 10 schools of the region. Totally 400 pupils were reached by these sessions touching principally on soil erosion and the preservation of natural resources.

Tree planting as a complement to irrigation network rehabilitation

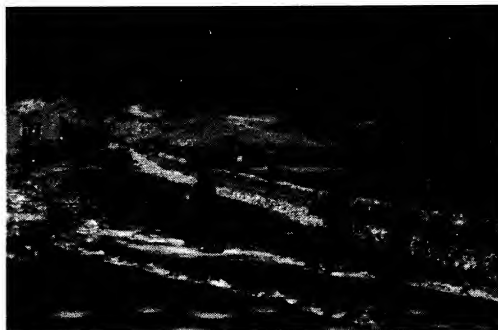
As a compliment to an emergency programme of 59 irrigation dam restorations, financed by ECHO (European Community Humanitarian Office, Direction of Emergency Humanitarian Operations), 1 048 poplar and apple trees were planted with the objective of stabilising the soils and preventing moisture evaporation. Planting around 45 water dams was done in November 2005.

Early snow falls stopped the work and so the other 13 plantings will be done in spring 2006.

EMERGENCY PROGRAMMES

Because of successive years of drought and the precarious food security in the area, emergency actions were necessary during 2005 and were made possible by funding from the European Union (Direction ECHO).

These emergency "Food for Work" programmes involving the most vulnerable populations involved different types of common-interest works:



Snow clearing

Snow clearing and track rehabilitation :

The main roads of the region are normally closed during the winter. To keep them open, teams were designated to assure that the principal axe east-west (kotal-e-Onay / Kotal-e-Mullah Yaqub) and two secondary axes (Markaz / Sang-e-Shandah and Gardan Diwal / Ab-e-Naqra) were kept clear of snow.

Because of heavy snow and storms some of the passes were blocked for periods of 16 to 92-days (Onay pass was closed for 60 days, Jahanoom pass for 92 days).

Permanent improvement of irrigation works:

Engineering works (Karez, springs, small dams) that help overcome the arid climate of the dryer regions in the Hazarajat (Arak & Merkhora, Markaz, Lataband, Asht Darakht and Momrak) were not able to be started until mid-June because of the late thaw and strong spring rains. By the end of September 100 rehabilitation sites were completed and 19 others foreseen. Most of the rehabilitations concerned small dams (40%), embankments (18%) and springs (16%). These improvements enabled the irrigated surface to be increased by an average of 20%.

Collecting seeds of wild grasses:

With the aim of preserving the biological diversity of the natural grazing lands, a programme was devised where widows with a family to support, collected the seeds of wild species of pasture plants. 1360 widows collected the seeds of 10 different species that were then distributed to 475 different communities and sown under the supervision of the staff of MADERA.

An agreement was made with these communities to protect newly re-sown pastures from grazing for 3 years.

The beneficiaries of all these emergency programmes described above came from different sections of the society: agriculture workers, land owners who rent their land, recent refugees and socially disadvantaged people (widows with a family to support). Totally these programmes benefited 6414 persons of which 1360 were widows. This represents 80% of the population in the zones where the programmes were carried out. Indirectly 33 000 persons benefited from the overture of the roads during winter.

HANDICRAFT : WOOL SPINNING

The wool spinning programme using spinning wheels introduced by Madera several years ago was continued. During 2005, 419 women were trained of which 230 were new to the programme. Thanks to a credit made available by Madera each woman was able to acquire a spinning wheel.

In addition 855 women attended beginners training courses and 523 followed an advanced training session.

During the year a total of 6.6MT of raw wool was transformed into 5.3MT of wool thread that was sold on the Kabul market.



Wool spinning training

Working at Home

Mrs. Fatima Hussin from the village of Tartala (Koh-e-Baroon, Behsud II district) followed a foot operated spinning wheel training in January 2004. She continued to spin wool on a regular basis. Between July and December 2005 she spun 86.4 kg of good quality wool thread from 108 kg of raw wool. Her work earned her 3888 AFA that was used to contribute to the family revenues.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Programmes in the field of community development were started in 2005 with the constitution of 3 producer groups: 2 vegetable and wheat producer groups (at Seyabota and Safed Deawar) and one association of fruit producers (Dahani Ojey).

These groups organised themselves into associations in order to unite their technical capacities, their labour and their marketing.

TECHNICAL INNOVATION

The ties made with the association PROMMATA⁸ from the Ariège region in France resulted in a study mission going to the Hazarajat region by one of its members Daniel Lecoutour in September 2005. The objective of that mission was the introduction of animal traction cultivation material (Kanol and Kassine ploughs) developed by Jean Nolle during the 1970s and further developed by PROMMATA in France and in Africa. The demonstration material had been sent ahead from Ariège to Kabul. Different demonstrations were conducted in the field with the farmers from the Hazarajat region. What must still be verified is the possibility of reproducing these instruments in Afghanistan, (availability of the material) and to monitor during one cultural season (2006) the usage made of the instruments left in the demonstration farms by the farmers in the surrounding areas.



Traditional ploughing



Assembling of a plough on the « Kanol »

⁸ PROMMATA: Promotion d'un Machinisme Moderne Agricole à Traction Animale

4. EASTERN PROVINCES : Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nouristan

HISTORY OF ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

From 1985 the BIA, and following that Madera, from its creation in 1988, intervened within the context of the Soviet occupation in the high valleys of the Kunar, the Nuristan and the Laghman. The aim was to aid the farmers and to prevent their exodus to Pakistan. Agro-pastoral and cereal programmes were started as well as actions in the field of forest protection. Progressively the activities were extended to the lower valleys.

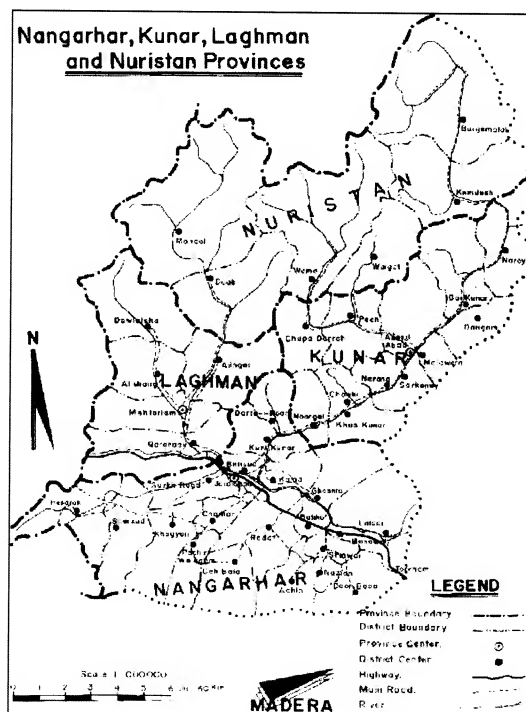
After the retreat of the soviet forces, the aim was redirected towards aiding the returning refugees (1988-1989). From 1992, the programmes were diversified to include the rehabilitation of the lands abandoned during the war, the distribution of adapted seeds, the rehabilitation of irrigation systems, the vaccination of livestock and the creation of fruit and forest tree nurseries. The growing of forest tree saplings was given to households where the women produced them in their gardens. These saplings were bought back by Madera and used in its forest replanting programmes. The sale of the saplings that they had grown, produced additional revenue for the women.

In 1997 a veterinary laboratory was created by Madera in Jalalabad. Diseases were diagnosed and vaccines were produced for the whole of the eastern part of Afghanistan.

In 2002, to accommodate a massive number of returning refugees, an important programme of rehabilitating new land for cultivation by extending the irrigation network was undertaken. 1650 hectares of previously uncultivated land was reclaimed. This programme was accompanied by supporting activities in the domains of animal husbandry, agriculture, arboriculture and micro-credit. The forestry activities were pursued in parallel in the remote valleys of the Nuristan and the Kunar province.

Added to these programmes were several pilot experiences in participative community development with the villagers making the choice of what programmes they want in function of their development aims: protection dikes, the digging of tube wells, planting eucalyptus trees.

In 2004 a country-wide programme run by the Government was launched. The NSP (National Solidarity Programme) gives the choice of development programmes to village communities created by an elective process. In the East, Madera facilitates the process in the provinces of Laghman, and Nuristan and later the Kunar from 2005.



THE PROBLEM OF POPPY WITHIN THE REGIONAL CONTEXT

As with the security situation, the fight against drugs is getting worse. Each one influences negatively the other. Since 2002 the production of opium has increased annually to a harvest in 2004 of 4 200 MT in a cultivated area of 131 000 ha. The Nangarhar, the only major producing province where Madera intervenes, held the record with 28000 ha under the crop, just in front of the neighbouring province of Helmand. In 2005 Government action and the increase in aid from the international community resulted in a country-wide reduction of 21% to 104 000 ha. In Nangarhar the cultivation was drastically reduced to around 1000 ha. This success is attributed to several factors. The provincial Governor Mohammad Din utilised the carrot and stick method to persuade the elders of the tribes under his jurisdiction. USAID invested 50 million dollars in projects. The price of wheat rose and lastly the threat of eradication actions by the coalition forces, numerous in the region, all had the effect of dissuading the farmers to plant poppy.

But all the signs point to a resumption of the production in 2006, at the national level and in the province of Nangarhar. In the provinces of Helmand and Kandahar who were the leading producers of poppy in 2005 there is little Government control over the rural areas due to the resurgence of the Taliban who, at planting time in the autumn of 2005, distributed tracts encouraging the farmers to increase their area under poppy and promising them protection against eradication efforts by the

coalition. This strategy aimed at increasing the tensions between the population and the NATO forces (principally British in the Helmand and Canadian in Kandahar) who have taken over from the Americans in the area. Although the eradication campaigns have only touched a few thousand hectares, preliminary studies have indicated that the areas under poppy cultivation in Helmand province have doubled and could well reach 40 000 ha in 2006. In the Nangarhar province, the survey carried out by the United Nations Organisation against the Drug and the Crime (UNODC) on the area sown in the autumn of 2005, show a "very big increase" of poppy cultivation in the province that could represent 50% of that sown in 2004 which would bring the area up to nearly 15 000 ha. But in contrast to the areas sown in 2005 that were on the plains around Jalalabad, the 2006 crop will come from the more remote zones of the province. In Laghman province, although the area is small, the tendency is for it to increase. Little change is foreseen in the Kunar with about 1 000 ha and a reduction is forecast in the Nuristan where 1 500 ha were cultivated in 2005.

The conclusion concerning Nangarhar is unclear. There will certainly be an increase but not in the areas controlled by the Government, where the majority of the NGO operate. If more aid is given to the remoter areas of the province it is to be hoped that the success obtained in 2004 will be confirmed. It all depends on the military and political situation.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

As in the Hazarajat, Madera is programme consists of organising a network of veterinarians and para- veterinarians so as to cover the animal health needs in the three eastern provinces. This programme, supported by the European Union, is part of a national programme that has as its goal to liberalise the work of the veterinarians while at the same time confirming then in their role in controlling the animal health in collaboration with the local authorities and the central Government.

Madera's programme consists of forming the animal health personnel preventive (vaccinations) and curative veterinary medicine.

The network of the animal health service is the subject of a protocol between the staff (veterinarians and para- veterinarians) and the provincial Governor.

Madera has the responsibility of accompanying the whole process.



Veterinary healthcare

Laghman : 13 health posts, 5 clinics (including the central clinic)

At the end of 2005 the administrative and technical reorganisation of the network in Laghman was almost completed. The protocol defining the cooperation between the veterinarian service, the Governor and MADERA was signed on the 3 January 2006.

Kunar : 15 health posts, 1 clinic

The process was started at the same time as in Laghman but several problems have slowed the process. There have been coordination difficulties with the AVA (Afghan Veterinary Association) who work in 7 districts. The presence of a PRT (Provincial Reconstruction Team) has not helped because the teams carry out activities in the domain of animal health without any collaboration with the NGOs working in the area. The third difficulty is connected with the military operations themselves that have stopped Madera's teams from travelling through the Pech valley.

Nuristan : 4 health posts

Fighting and military operations in the Pech valley has closed the access to Central Nuristan (Waygal/Wama/Parun) and only remote controlled follow-ups have been able to be done with the three para-veterinarians in Wygal and Wama.

Besides the main programme of the animal health network, MADERA has continued its traditional programmes:

- Vaccination campaigns

- Health care in the clinics

- Diagnostic and analysis in the Jalalabad animal health laboratory.

Artificial insemination in the Qargai centre, Metherlam district of the Laghman province.

Vaccination campaigns

Kunar / Nuristan				
Vaccin	Goats	Sheep	Cattle	Beneficiaries
ETV – Pulpy kidney	24 5204	79 664	0	
Sheep and goat pox	176 232	60 215	0	
BQV blackleg	0	0	45 843	
Cholera	82 197	38 786	44 975	
Anthrax	29 863	17 253	7 645	
Plague of small ruminants	0	0	0	
Contagious agalactia	130 225	29 919	0	
Total	663 721	225 837	98 463	26 877

Laghman				
Vaccin	Goats	Sheep	Cattle	Beneficiaries
ETV – Pulpy kidney	92 500	148 534	0	
Sheep and goat pox	106 910	119 313	0	
BQV blackleg	0	0	34 030	
Cholera	30 315	25 458	21 282	
Anthrax	34 630	28 445	431	
Plague of small ruminants	0	0	0	
Contagious agalactia	105 500	5 900	0	
Total	369 855	327 650	55 743	18 007

Clinic and dispensary activity

	clinic	dispensary	acts	Beneficiaries
Kunar / Nuristan	2	18	397 763	13 186
Laghman	3	11	107 426	12 454
Total	5	29	505 189	25 640

Activités du Laboratoire de Jalalabad

Analysis		positives	negatives	Beneficiaries
Bactéria	1 706	956	750	4 800
Parasites	2 113	1 163	950	
protozoan	3 744	2 659	1 085	
Total	7 563	4 778	2 785	

Artificial insémination - Laghman

Station	Insemination	Villages	Beneficiaries
Metherlam	233	181	233
Qarghai	300	243	300
Total	533	424	533
% successful		96%	

AGRICULTURE

Madera was able to continue its programme of agricultural extension, input distribution, variety tests and seed multiplication due to the financial support from the European Union (Direction AIDCO) within the framework of the programme "Support for Returning Refugees in Eastern Afghanistan". The FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations) also contributed to this programme.

Madera made demonstration plots in its 4 agricultural centres in the Nangarhar (Shiwa, Kama, Behsud and Sokhrod), 5 centres in the Kunar and three in the Laghman (Alingar, Metherlam and Qargai). These centres supported training sessions held with the farmers in the three provinces. Extension meetings are held for the purpose of improving cultural techniques.

The seed of wheat, rice and vegetables (carrots, turnips, spinach, radish, aubergine, cauliflower and tomato) were distributed as were fertilisers (DAP and Urea) to hundreds of families in the eastern provinces. These distributions were accompanied by training sessions given by Madera's technicians on cultural techniques. The reference-farmers were associated with these trainings and relayed the message to their neighbouring farmers in the village.

ARBORICULTURE AND FOREST

The programmes of arboriculture and forest protection were able to be restarted at the end of 2004 following the grant given to Madera by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAE). It started by a survey carried out in 4 zones in the Kunar and the Nuristan provinces. (Hawdal in the district of Assadabad, Dewagal in the district of Chawki, Chapadara in the district of Pech and in Waygal). 10 forestry agents were recruited and trained on how to lead the villagers to an understanding of the protection and the usage of the forest.

The first actions were to create 10 village committees to manage the forest, to harvest seeds and berries and to plant and transplant tree saplings. In addition, the committees have the task of protecting natural forest regeneration and the construction of small terraces and dams in order to check soil erosion. These committees are also asked to settle disputes connected with the pasture land and the forests between different villages and within their own communities.



A nursery of Madera

Fruit tree growing was restarted in the two provinces of Kunar and Nangarhar using the nurseries of Madera and the resources of the private nurseries started from Madera stock. In the Kunar for instance, in the two nurseries at Bagh-e-Salar and Chawki, in 2005 8 000 new plants were produced and 9 900 grafts were carried out.

In addition Madera encouraged the establishment of private orchards where for a start the harvest is consumed by the family. To this end 50 new private orchards were created by the farmers in the Kunar, 40 in the Nangarhar and 18 in the Laghman.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

The civil engineering sector (various rural engineering constructions, roads, bridges, water inlets, buildings, etc.) has become an important actor in the community development programmes of Madera. The projects asked for by the communities in the programmes of animal health, community development and NSP (National Solidarity Programme), almost invariably involve constructions (schools, animal health clinics, bridges).

The civil engineering sector enables the villagers to concretize their development aims (micro-hydraulic constructions etc).

Irrigation infrastructures in Nishagam and Sarkano (Nangarhar)

In 2005 the construction sites of Nishagam and Sarkano were terminated and with them the end of the rehabilitation, started in 2002, of the new irrigated lands.

At Nishagam the rehabilitation and construction of aqueducts and water ducts, culverts etc enabled 2 or 3 canals to be extended and so increase the area under irrigation.

At Sarkano the construction of an intake from the Kunar river enabled 50 extra hectares to be irrigated.

Canal at Bali Kanda (Nuristan)

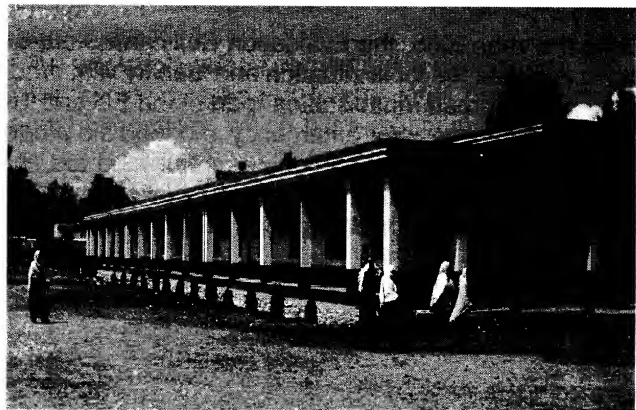
The construction site of the canal at Want – Bali Kanda (9 km long) had been started many months ago but never been finished for several reasons. Technical constraints due to the difficult terrain, uneven and rocky, slowed up the work. Secondly the zone is not secure because of American military operations. This stopped during a whole year, the technical team to visit the site. So the achievement of this project has had to be delayed until 2006.

Nazu Ana school - AFRANE

The construction of the Nazu Ana School, financed by the association AFRANE⁹ in the center of Jalalabad started in July 2005 and after some delays will be finished in April 2006. The construction of the building with 12 classes was given to a local building company under the technical direction of Madera.



Irrigation infrastructure



Nazu Ana school

⁹ AFRANE: Amitié Franco-Afghane, French association specialised in education.

5. EVALUATION CELL

The Evaluation cell continued its task of following up Madera's activities, measuring the impact of the programmes on the beneficiaries as well as reinforcing the capacities of its own team members.

Activities in programme evaluation

The monthly activity progress sheets (MASS¹⁰) were produced during the whole of the year, bringing quantitative data for all the programmes run by Madera.

New tools have been developed for the follow-up of forestry activities in the East (programme financed by the French Foreign Ministry) as well as for the programmes of food distribution, rural rehabilitation in the Eastern provinces and in Ghor province all financed by the European Union.

A follow-up of prices in the different zones where Madera works has been included in the monthly reports (MASS). Finally the evaluation indicators have been modified to include qualitative measures of the activities carried out.

Baseline Surveys

During the year 2005, the Evaluation Cell carried out 6 socio-economic surveys with the aim of being able to evaluate the local situation and identify with precision the beneficiaries of future programmes:

- Ghor: for the "road rehabilitation" part of the EU and Trocaire programmes.
- Hazarajat: 2 surveys for emergency and food aid programmes (EU /ECHO)
- Eastern regions: 3 surveys, one each for food aid, the consolidation phase of the refugee return to the eastern part of the country, (selection of beneficiaries for private orchards and nurseries) and thirdly the situation of the forest for a project financed by the French Foreign Ministry.

Impact studies

4 impact studies were made during 2005.

- One impact study in Ghor province of "food for work" programmes (ECHO 2004) that involved road building and rehabilitation.
- 3 impact studies in Hazarajat:
 1. "Food for work" (ECHO 2005), clearing snow from the passes and small check dams.
 2. Orchard creation component of the Trocaire project.
 3. Study of the spinning-wheel component of the above mentioned Trocaire project.

In December an impact study on the food aid project of the European Union was started in the Hazarajat. These different studies can be consulted at Madera offices at Kabul and Paris.

Cartographic surveys

The production of maps using the geographic information system (GIS) has been given a boost in 2005. The staff member responsible for the GIS was given a basic training on the computer programme (GIS / MapInfo).

Three cartographic reconnaissance surveys (plotting of coordinates of village, roads etc by GPS) have been made which enabled localisation maps to be made of the projects being carried out in the region. One was carried out in Ghor for rural rehabilitation (financed by EU) and 2 in Hazarajat for the projects financed by Trocaire and EU (Food Aid).

On the basis of the data gathered it has been possible to produce several series of maps that were integrated into the reports of the different projects.

External evaluations

3 studies were made by external consultants supported by the evaluation cell.

- Evaluation of the rural rehabilitation project in Ghor (EU - AIDCO)

¹⁰ MASS : Monthly activity survey sheet

- Study of local socio-political organisations and socio-economic initiatives for the rural rehabilitation project in Ghor (EU - AIDCO).
- Final evaluation of the project "Refugee return" in the Eastern region (financed by UE - AIDCO).

Specialised studies

3 studies were made by university students under the co-ordination of the evaluation cell.

- Agrarian production systems in the districts of Taywara and Pasaband (Ghor - EU project of rural rehabilitation, by Miss Anne Staquet (student at IEDES¹¹))
- Social management of irrigation water in the Eastern regions, returning refugees project by Cedric Fioekou (student from CNEARC¹²).
- Crop Commercialisation – Fruit Trees, in the Eastern regions, returning refugees project by Thomas Reitz (student at ISTOM¹³).

Documentation center

In order not to lose its experience and professional practices in rural development Madera has established a documentation centre managed by the Evaluation cell, where the documents of the NGO are stored. In 2005, 86 documents were borrowed by 20 internal and external persons.

Perspectives for 2006

For 2006 the principal objectives of the Evaluation cell are:

- Improvement of the system of reporting and follow-up of projects. The aim is to reinforce the viability, the regularity and the pertinence of the analyses that are produced and to assure the availability of data on the advancement of the different projects that are being carried out by Madera.
- Improvement of the quality and the functionality of studies realised by the cell, taking into account the existing data and analyses, geographic and economic aspects, the standards and criteria used by the donors, developing a preliminary dialogue with the different persons responsible for running the project and bringing together the results.
- Promoting institutional apprenticeship and recognition of the experience gained in Madera.
- Reinforcing the capacity of the Evaluation cell through general and specific training for the team, the establishment of a new, better performing GPS system (ArcGIS) and the thorough training of the person responsible for the utilisation of the system.

¹¹: IEDES: Institut d'Etude du Développement Economique et Social, Université Paris I

¹²: CNEARC: Centre national d'études agronomiques des Régions chaudes, Montpellier

¹³: ISTOM: Ecole d'ingénieur Agro-Développement International

THE ASSOCIATION

JOINING ENNA

MADERA joined the network ENNA (European network of NGOs in Afghanistan) which is a group of NGOs having a common objective of lobbying the European Union as well as awareness campaigns in their own countries.

The members of this network are ACF (Action Contre la Faim), Afghanaid, BAAG (British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group), DACAAR (Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees) EU CORD (collective of 7 NGOs working in Afghanistan), ICCO (Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation) Kerkinactie (Federation of Dutch Protestant Churches), MADERA, NCA (Norwegian Church Aid), SAB (Solidarité Afghanistan Belgique), SCA (Swedish Committee for Afghanistan).

The activities undertaken in 2005 aimed at explaining to the European Commission the problems that the NGOs working in Afghanistan have to face with the PRTs (Provincial Reconstruction Teams): unities that encompass both civil (5-10%) and military personnel (90-95%) and whose role is to contribute to the reconstruction of the country, extend the authority of the central Government in the provinces and keep abreast of the situation. Some PRTs are manned by NATO troops and civil personnel, others depend on the Coalition forces.

These PRT, in addition to their military role of assuring the security in the provinces, undertake humanitarian actions without consulting the NGOs already working in the area. These actions blur the distinction between the role of the military and that of the NGOs engaged in humanitarian work. Sometimes it can nullify the whole participative approach to development carried out by the NGOs (for example, when the PRT distribute seed or undertake various construction works without any participation of the population).

REINFORCING THE TIES WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

Madera has become a member of **Solidarity Afghanistan Belgique (SAB)**. A representative of the latter has been on the Board of Directors of Madera for several years. The two associations wish to reinforce their ties both in the field and at the headquarter level in Europe. The aim is to find synergies in the actions of the two NGOs in the field.

Since the beginning of the year one of Madera's members of the Board of Directors, Alain Labrousse, has participated in the publication committee of the monthly journal **Nouvelles d'Afghanistan**, published by AFRANE.

OPENING THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO MEMBERS OF MADERA



The board meeting in october 2005

Starting from 2005 there has been a modification in the programme of the quarterly Board meetings.

From this date all members are invited to the afternoon sessions that are organised as presentations and debates. The aim is to better share the information and the reflection on the field programmes and association affairs.

Organisations or persons interested in Madera's activities are also invited to these afternoon meetings.

FIELD MISSION OF TWO ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

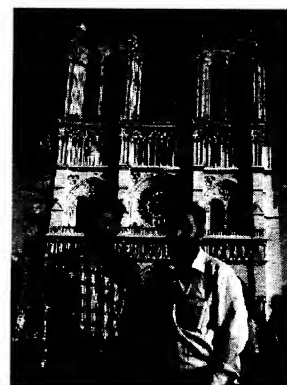
Jean-Noël Feraille a member of the Board and Gérard Logié, a member of the Bureau, went to Afghanistan in September 2005 to visit the field programmes in the Eastern provinces and in the Hazarajat. They were particularly interested in the programmes of Community development, NSP (National Solidarity Programme) and microfinance.

STUDY TOUR IN FRANCE OF AFGHAN STAFF MEMBERS

Dr Issa and Saïd Rahim Shah, staff members responsible for the animal husbandry programme in the Easter provinces, participated in the Board of Directors' Meeting of October 2005.

Their stay in France enabled them to make a tour of the Cher area where they met with goat farmers, cheese producers, a crop-protection association, farmers from the area and representatives of farmers' organisations.

This visit of the two Madera staff members was organised by Jean-Noël Feraille and the members of the French farmers association AFDI (Agriculteurs Français et Développement International) who lodged them and accompanied them in their visits. AFDI is also a member of Madera.



UPDATING OF THE MADERA'S WEBSITE: MADERA-ASSO.ORG

The site will be soon updated thanks to the active collaboration of Margit Vermès-Labrousse. As well as updating the site and the information contained in it, Margit Vermès-Labrousse will create an internal site (intranet) that will become a place of exchange and contact for members wherever they might be in the world.

AFGHANISTAN : OPIUM DE GUERRE, OPIUM DE PAIX

"Afghanistan: Opium de Guerre, Opium de Paix" ("Opium in War, Opium in Peace"): such is the title of a book researched and written in French by Alain Labrousse, member of the Board, which gives interesting insights into the stakes at play in the poppy cultivation of Afghanistan.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN 2005

Aide Médicale Internationale	Medical NGO	Board
Jean Braud	Forestry Expert	Vice-Président
Henri Chaudet	Agricultural Graduate	Board
Jean-Noël Feraille	Juriste – Agricultural Board	Board
Emile Florin	Human Resource Director- retired	Treasurer
Stuart Gaudin	Development Programme Coordinator- retired	Executive Committee
Alain Labrousse	Sociologist and journalist – Drug specialist	Executive Committee
Pierre Lafrance	French Ambassador - retired	President
Gérard Logié	Local Development Expert - retired	Secretary
Norwegian Afghanistan Committee represented by Elisabeth Eide)	NGO working in the fields of education, health and environment in Afghanistan.	Board
Jean-Pierre Prod'Homme	Emeritus Professor at the INA-PG	Board
Solidarité Afghanistan Belgique	NGO specialised in on-the-job training	Board
Alain Thiollier	Director of Asiathèque	Board
Michel Verron	Former UNESCO expert - retired	Executive Committee

HEADQUARTERS AT PARIS IN 2005

Monique Otchakovsky-Laurens, General Delegate
Christian Blanchard, Deputy General Delegate

LISTE OF DONORS

The programmes carried out in 2005 were financed by:

AFRANE (Amitié Franco-Afghane)

Association Suisse des Amis de l'Afghanistan (Swiss Association of Friends of Afghanistan)

CARITAS Italy

General Council of Dordogne

European Commission
AIDCO (Europe Aid Cooperation)
ECHO (European Commission European Office)

FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation, United Nations)

French Government (Foreign Affairs Ministry, General Directorate of International Cooperation and Development)

Afghan Rural Development and Rehabilitation Ministry / World Bank / MISFA

MISEREOR (CARITAS network – Germany)

WFP (World Food Programme of the United Nations)

TROCAIRE (CARITAS network – Ireland)

Private Donors

MADERA members.

MADERA warmly thanks these donors for the interest and confidence they have shown for its actions and for the consistency of their support.

LISTE OF PARTNERS

MADERA also wished to thank all our partners who aided it in carrying out its projects:

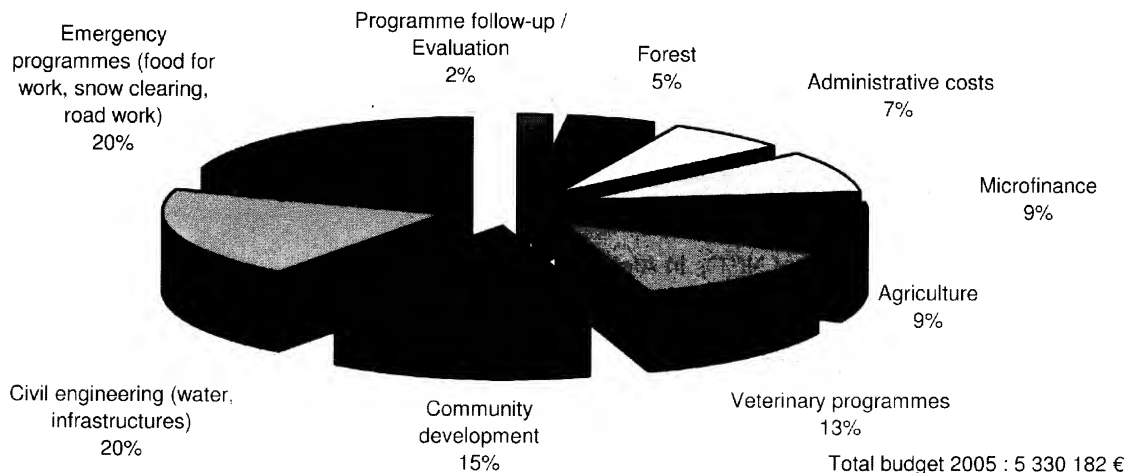
- APPM (Association of Mountain Populations of the World)
- BAAG (British Agencies Afghanistan Group)
- Coordination Sud (network of French speaking NGOs)
- ENNA (European Network of NGOs in Afghanistan)
- GERES (Renewable Energies and Environment Group)
- Afghan Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
- PROMMATA (Promotion of Animal Drawn Mechanisation of Agriculture)

BUDGET 2005



Madera's budget in 2005 totalled 5 330 182 € (of which 3% was in kind: allocations of wheat and food). This represents an important increase compared to 2004 (+ 37%).

Distribution of the budget between different programmes - 2005

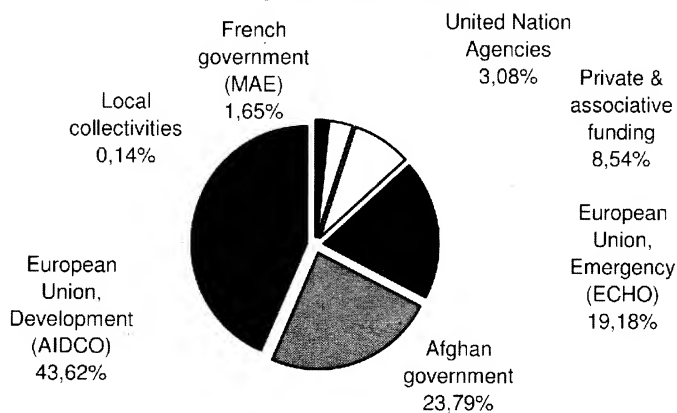


As in previous years, the European Union remains the most important donor (63 % of the annual budget) with its different programmes (food security, refugee return and emergency programmes). This year the European Union financed the consolidation phase of the rural rehabilitation programmes formally carried out in the Eastern provinces (Nuristan, Kunar, Laghman and Nangarhar) as well as in the West of the country (Districts of Taywarah and Pasaband, Ghor province).

Other significant funding came from the Afghan Government (with financing from the World Bank), the United Nations and the French Foreign Ministry.

Other funding came from private and associative sources (CARITAS network in Italy, Ireland, Misereor, Amis Suisses de l'Afghanistan) and from a local collectivity in France, the General Council of Dordogne.

Funding sources in 2005



The geographic distribution of Madera's activities for 2005 show an increase in programmes in the disadvantaged western province of Ghor while the proportion of activities carried out in the Eastern regions diminished slightly. An important amount of activities continued to be carried out in the other two regions (Hazarajat and Kabul).

Geographical distribution





Photo credits: MADERA is grateful the members of the field team, particularly Cédric Fleury, Dr. Issa, Bernard Ival, Guillaume Lacondemine, Daniel Lecoutour, Cyril Lekiefs and Elsa Piou for the photos in this report.



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